

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Bi-Monthly Meeting

February 18, 2009 3-5 PM

DuBois Conference Center, Northern Arizona University

HIGHLIGHTS

Attendance:

Cathy Allen, Lucinda Andreani, Patricia Bigwood, Kurt Braatz, Lynn Burch, Kevin Burke, Josh Copley, Linda Cowan, Rick A. Day, Joy Dillehay, Bethany Dennehy, GT Fowler, Allen Gerhardt, Maury Herman, Brian Kolb, Gary Krcmarik, Peggy Lee, Andrea Lopez, Brad Mattingly, Mandy Metzger, Margaret McCullough, Esler Musta, Gary Pearlmutter, Steve Peru, Sara Presler, Dave Rozema, Sara Schmoll, Lisa Stankovich, Joy Staveley, Jon Tuepker, Vicki Vega, Mary Walsh-Navarro, Wendy White, Cindy Winn, Nancy Wonders, and Debbie Young.

1. Welcome and Introduction *Steve Peru chaired the meeting*

2. Minutes from December 10th meeting were approved

3. Discussion Topic: Budget and Legislative Updates

- **Federal:**

- i. Jon Tuepker presented an overview of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act passed by Congress and signed by the President on February 17, 2009. The Department of Justice (DOJ) will receive \$2 Billion for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant, and \$1 billion for the COPS program, which is for the hiring and rehiring of law enforcement officers.

Lucinda will set up a meeting with the DOJ during the National Association of Counties (NACo) Conference in Washington DC to learn more about Byrne and COPS funding opportunities for CJCC partners.

- ii. Bethany Dennehy presented an overview of President Obama's priorities for the Criminal Justice System. The President identified four priorities during the election campaign. They were: 1) Support local Law Enforcement, 2) Reduce Crime Recidivism by Providing Ex-Offender Supports, 3) End the dangerous cycle of youth violence, and 4) Address gun violence in cities.

- **State:**

- i. Jon Tuepker provided an overview of the Arizona Legislature's Fiscal Year 2009 budget balancing measures passed in January. The state is expecting another cut ranging from \$250-500 million to balance the budget before the end of the fiscal year. The state expects the budget to experience a budget shortfall of \$3.5 billion in fiscal year 2010.
- ii. The CJCC Executive Committee sent a letter in January to Legislators supporting the AOC's plan to address the budget cuts for FY 2009. The letter was influential in discussions with the Legislature. AOC wants to give localities flexibility in making and addressing budget shortfalls. The House continues to hear different bills, while the Senate remains committed to addressing the budget.

- **AOC Update**

- i. The budget cuts proposed by the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) were adopted in January by the State Legislators. The formula and approach of budget was endorsed by CJCC. There is no final indication on the level of cuts for the budget next year.

- **Local**

- i. Steve Peru provided an update on Coconino County's budget. The County is facing a \$2.4 million budget shortfall in fiscal year 2009.
- ii. Kevin Burke provided an update on City of Flagstaff budget. The City is facing a \$13 million shortfall for the fiscal year 2010 budget. This represents 19 percent of the general fund. This will affect City departments across the board. Council has asked that the Police Department not to reduce any patrol officers. The Prosecutor and Municipal Courts may also experience layoffs and cuts.

iii. Agency/Departments, Update

4. Informal Networking and Snacks

5. Sub-Committee Updates

- Juvenile Justice –Judge McCullough provided an update.

- Systems Performance

Mary Walsh reported that the Systems Performance Subcommittee has prioritized the strategies associated with the System Performance Sub-committee from the strategic plan. The prioritized strategies will be shared with the Executive Committee at their retreat. The City of Flagstaff has put on hold the expansion of the Drug Court.

- Behavioral Health

There has not been a meeting of this sub-committee since the last CJCC meeting.

- CJI

Lynn Burch reported on e-citation ticketing project. The project is now ready to be implemented. The Flagstaff Police Department will start using the e-citation devices on February 24.

- Arrest to Arraignment

No report

- Executive Committee

Lucinda Andreani reported that the Executive Committee is planning a retreat on April 17. The retreat will be focused on the role of CJCC Executive Committee and prioritizing the strategic plan.

6. Agency Information Exchange and Discussion

Brad Mattingly reported that the Drug Court has received a new grant. The grant provides a voucher system that allows Drug Court participants to get treatment for the abuse of meth and other services for free.

Wendy White reported a rising number of homeless. The Flagstaff Shelter numbers have been trending upward.

The Police Department is likely to see the rise in numbers due to the current economic situation.

The Foster Parents program has received heavy cuts, which will be worsening an already difficult situation.

Approach the budget shortfalls and economic downturn innovatively. Joy Staveley stated that a possible and direct solution could be an "Adopt a Cop" campaign. This campaign can help fund local police officer(s) during this troubled economic times.

Cindy Winn stated that surveillance officers in Adult Probation will be the first ones affected by the budget reductions from the State. It is important that we all share job opportunities and continue to communicate.

Kurt Braatz of the Sheriff's Office reported that while there has not been a significant increase in felonies, the current misdemeanor length of stay increased considerably.

The Chair of NAU's Criminology Department, Dr. Nancy Wonders, reported an increase in grant opportunities. There is potential to partner with NAU's Department of Criminal Justice and apply for these opportunities. There will be a new infusion of grant funds from the Obama Administration that will require coordinated action amongst CJCC members to obtain.

Future meeting suggestions:

It will be important in the future to highlight positive success stories as a result of the work of each department and CJCC.

The Police Department has implemented a new set of performance measures. The Police Department can share the presentation made to the City Council.

7. Adjourn